THE

AERONAUT.

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Charles could not part with his native Land without a severe struggle with his feelings. fixed however in his resolution he embarked and a favouring Gale soon wafted the Vessel from the Shore as she sailed out of the Harbor and gradually from the

coast he kept his eyes continu-
ally fixed upon the white cliffs
of his country & a gloomy presa-
ge hovered his mind with the
fear that he was leaving them fo-
ever. he in vain endeavoured to
calm his anxiety but neither the
anticipation of the New World he was
about to visit nor the efforts of rea-
son could remove the burthen fro-
m his heart. and when at last
Land faded from his sight-
& he beheld only the wide expa-
nse of Water he sunk into
a degree of despondency almost
equal to that of him who ha-
banted with a last faithful frien-
d forever

The novelty of the voyage
and the new vigor infused into
his debilitated frame by the bra-
cing air of the Ocean relieved
him in part from the weight
of his anguish & in spite of a
settled melancholy he was o-
evidently better both in health &

in spirits

After a pleasant passage he was landed at a considerable Port in the United States & determined to employ himself in gaining information as to the Government the Institutions & the manners of the People. he engaged in this pursuit with all the candor of his character & the keenness of his enquiries & the accuracy of his research kept his mind in constant activity & robbed his sorrows of half their anguish - when after the lapse of some time he had become satisfied by the extent of his enquiries he determined as well for the opportunity of examining the Country with his own eyes as for the pleasure of travelling to spend some time in visiting the most celebrated States either for wealth of the People fertility of the Soil or beauty of Scenery

Circumstances at this time

made us acquainted with each other & from the moment of our introduction a friendship commenced which was never interrupted either by word or deed- I had long wished to make excursions into different parts of the Union and proposed to accompany him. He joyfully accepted my offer & we set out on our journey determined to fix no limit of time to our wandering, & to view every thing with unprejudiced eyes We well knew that they who drive through a country post haste & spend no more time upon the road than is necessary for refreshment may soon travel through or [illegible] but can obtain little information from actual observation. We knew also that the Turnpike Roads being in many instances but lately made & cut through nearly in a straight line from place to place without reference to the surrounding scenery or the fertility or cultivation of the soil present to the eye generally the most

barren part of the Country. We did not therefore fall into the error of some sagacious Travellers - Either of supposing the Soil barren & badly cultivated because it happened to be so in our Route or of supposing the People vicious ignorant and idle merely because our Landlord happened to be so but we croped the States in every direction by the Common Roads & took every opportunity of ~~conversing~~ mingling with the Inhabitants sometimes riding many miles out of our way to converse with an intelligent Man or to view a fine prospect neat village or well cultivated farm - in this manner we spent several Months in the course of which time we had visited many objects of curiosity we had Climbed several lofty Mountains sailed upon many fine Rivers and been where "Niagara falls with thundering

round" Charles had continually buried himself in noting down his remarks upon surrounding objects & had collected much rare and useful information. his health was improved & I began to hope that in a short time he would be entirely restored to his former self. having now completed our project we returned to our place of residence. Charles had hitherto considered himself merely as a temporary sojourner and after spending a few years here ~~he expected~~ to return to his native home. this reflection always gave new vigor to his application as he hoped to acquire a degree of information upon all the subjects connected with the nature of our Government & our resources ~~which he would~~ that might prove useful to him in his future career & when

conversing upon the certainty of his return his countenance would be lighted up with an unusual degree of pleasure. but about this time he received some fatal news which at once overthrew all his expectations & made him consider himself from that moment an exile forever he never explained the cause of this misfortune nor have I ever been informed of it. from that moment all his former melancholy returned & he seemed like one who has lost all hope. he shut himself up from the World & only a few friends were sometimes admitted to soothe his sorrows. but to these he no longer unbosomed his mind with his former freedom but seemed inclined to nourish his sorrows without admitting to any

one an opportunity of soothing them. he had been delighted with the country with the manners & habits of the People but from that time he lost all his former eagerness of inquiry and all the pleasure of pursuit every object became clouded ~~with~~ every hope seemed to be destroyed. Nature seemed no longer teeming with a rich & beautiful variety the air had lost its balm & its spirit of vitality. The repast was spread in vain. the fields bloomed in all their verdure to no purpose & his eye glanced over those objects which once excited all the fervour of his feelings & all the brilliancy of his imagination with a cold & careless indifference. some objects still roused a momentary pleasure in his bosom but it was from their connection with former recollections these would steal upon him for the moment and make him forget the present in the past. but it was only for

the moment when the revie-
which they had excited had
vaped he would sink into a
still deeper despondency often
in his slumber would the im-
agen~~of his~~tion carry him back to his
days of early happiness. often w-
ould he then wander in the scen-
es of his youth surrounded by all the dear
objects that he once loved — he was
again the pride of his Father the
Idol of his Mother the protector
of his Sisters & almost worshipped
by a whole household, but the
fair image of his Louisa would ex-
cite his warmest happiness, and
he would again go over all his
schemes of love & ambition. till
he felt himself to possess all that
mortal man can hope or enjoy.
he awoke from such dreams —
but to feel still more keenly
the misery of his blighted pros-
pects. he would almost chide hea-
ven with having deserted of having
put him to trials of patience beyond

what human nature can bear & would think that the grave was the only remedy for his sorrows and his misfortunes. he remained for a considerable length of time in this state of gloomy despondency but continued melancholy preyed upon his health till the agonized remembrance of what he once was contrasted with his present situation sunk too deeply into his debilitated constitution & death often a comforter as well as a destroyer kindly relieved him from the sublunary cares

Amongst his papers were found the following lines which better describe the state of his feelings than can be done by any description of mine

I

An Exile from my Fathers Hall
My Mothers smile, and Sisters love,
Reckless if woe or weal befall
O'er Oceans stormy surge I rove

2

Far from the land which gave me birth
With throbbing heart, & stifled sigh
Shall I forlorn, on foreign Earth,
Unhonored live, & unlamented die?

3

No requiem rung no funeral dirge
To bless the Stranger scattered dust
While brooding o'er oblivions verge,
He leaves nor wealth, nor name, nor storied bust.

4

Nor Friends nor relatives to tell
His words his deeds, to other days
How well he loved, how early fell
Before his tongue, or pen had earned the meed of praise

5

Alights raven wing has cast the stole
Of Death, o'er all his future fame
The hand of Time shall rear unroll
To ages yet unborn his high & honored name

6

O'er his dark grave shall dawn no day
To gild the horrors of the Tomb;
Nor of Renown one living ray
Of his Sepulchral shade to pierce the Cypress gloom